



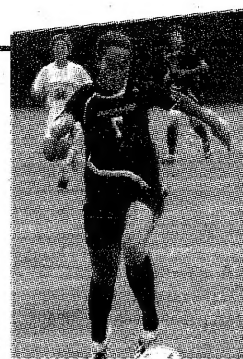
Lit Festival

Omaha Lit Festival hosts
local writers and artists.ENTERTAINMENT
[PAGE 3]

gateway

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA SINCE 1913

Soccer

Mav soccer starts MIAA
play at 4-1SOCCER
[PAGE 6]

VOLUME 09 | ISSUE 8

TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 22, 2009

Newspapers in Curricula accepting short story submissions

NOELLE LYNN BLOOD
NEWS EDITOR

UNO's Newspapers in Curricula Project will continue to accept submissions for the 2+3=5 Short Story Event. The event was announced at the beginning of this month, and the final deadline for submissions is Sept. 30.

Newspapers in Curricula, a co-sponsor, is a faculty group, which supports the Collegiate Readership Program. The group's goal is to develop strategies for and define the benefits of using newspapers in the classroom. The UNO Writing Center and The New York Times are also co-sponsoring the event. Registration forms can be picked up in the Writing Center, located in Arts and Sciences Room 150.

After filling out your registration form, use your MavCard to get a free copy of The New York Times from one of the 11 Collegiate Readership bins located around campus.

Select any single item advertised on either page two or page three and save the entire page to be submitted with your story.

Write a story featuring the item in any way you wish. Creativity is key, and the item can hold any amount of significance or play any role in the story.

Stories cannot be longer than five pages. They must be submitted in print form, double-spaced, 12-point font with standard margins. They must also be turned in as a Microsoft Word file.

Print copies, with the original ad page from The New York Times and registration form attached, are to be turned in to the front desk of the Writing Center.

The Word file should be sent to Maria Knudtson, project coordinator, at mknudtson@unomaha.edu. You will receive confirmation of the submission.

The writers of the top three outstanding stories will receive \$50 gift certificates to the UNO Bookstore and will have their stories read publicly at the 2+3=5 event in November.

On Sept. 16, Newspapers in Curricula held a forum on newspapers in classrooms.

The guest speakers at the event were Paul Wilson, a New York Times educational representative, and Lynn Hall, national director of education for The New York Times.

The Collegiate Readership program provides copies of the New York Times, USA Today and The Omaha World-Herald to UNO students. It is a nationwide endeavor from the Newspaper Association of America to get college students more involved in current events.

Safer Sex Cabaret spices up sex ed for UNO students

NOELLE LYNN BLOOD
NEWS EDITOR

UNO's Gender and Sexual Orientation Student Agency presented the Safer Sex Cabaret on Thursday afternoon to educate students on safe-sex practices and alternatives.

"The GSO put on the Safer Sex Cabaret because sex education, safe sex practices and learning to have a healthy sexual life are crucial to the development and well-being of us all," said Caitie Wegener, 21, a member of the GSO board. "Abstinence-only education has left our generation confused, afraid and uneducated about sex. Events like the Safer Sex Cabaret are desperately needed."

The Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender community is committed to providing sex education for all, she said.

Sponsoring organizations took turns presenting topic-specific information with punctuating drag performances between speakers.

Organizations that were represented included UNO Student Health Services; UNO Counseling Services, which presented on healthy relationships; Omaha's YWCA, which presented on domestic violence; Planned Parenthood; the Nebraska AIDS Project, which presented on safe sex practices and getting tested; and the UNO Women's



Dominique Divamoore entertains the crowd between speakers at the Safer Sex Cabaret on Thursday afternoon. (KIRBY KAUFMAN/GATEWAY)

Resource Center, which presented on the importance of active sexual consent.

"Active consent is about re-framing discussions on sexual consent from strictly

'no means no' to a model which states that anything less than active participation is not consensual," said Rachel Tomlinson Dick, director of the Women's Resource Center.

SEE CABARET: PAGE 2

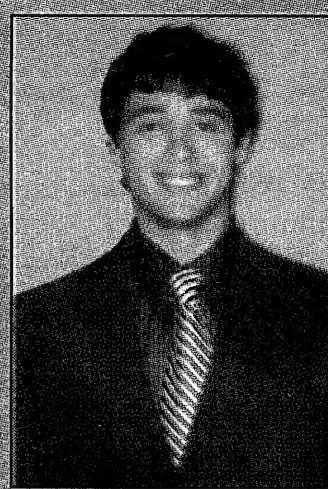
Student Government Presidential Debate



Matthew Nelson
President-Regent
Candidate



Shari Tangeman
Vice President
Candidate



Michael Crabb
President-Regent
Candidate



Gina Halbom
Vice President
Candidate

ANDREA CIUREJ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Student Government will be hosting the annual presidential debate in the Milo Bail Student Center on Sept. 24.

The debate will take place in the Fireplace Lounge, located on the first floor of the student center, at 11:30 a.m.

Each presidential ticket will be asked a series of questions regarding the experience they will be able to bring as the student body president/regent. Each ticket will also be asked questions on how they plan to better the UNO community and the goals for their potential term.

Students will also be given a chance to ask each ticket questions of their own toward the end of the debate.

Elections will then take place on Sept. 29 from 6 a.m. to midnight and Sept. 30 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. See the Sept. 29 issue of The Gateway for information regarding each presidential ticket, as well as each candidate running for a Senate position.

For more information, stop by the Student Government office on the first floor of the student center or call 402.554.2620. More information can be found on their Web site at sguno.unomaha.edu. Students can also find the voting ballot on the Web site come elections.

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Advertising inquiries should be directed to the Advertising Manager. Other inquiries and complaints should be directed to the Editor-in-Chief. Copies of the Student Publications Committee inquiry and complaint policy are available at the Gateway's office, located on the first floor of the Milo Bail Student Center.

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Nebraskans for Peace 'actively promote peace' through week of events

NOELLE LYNN BLOOD
NEWS EDITOR

UNO's chapter of Nebraskans for Peace hosted on-campus events last week on topics including health care, the political climate of Omaha, labor and union issues, aggressive passivism and military issues. The encompassing theme behind the presentations was peace.

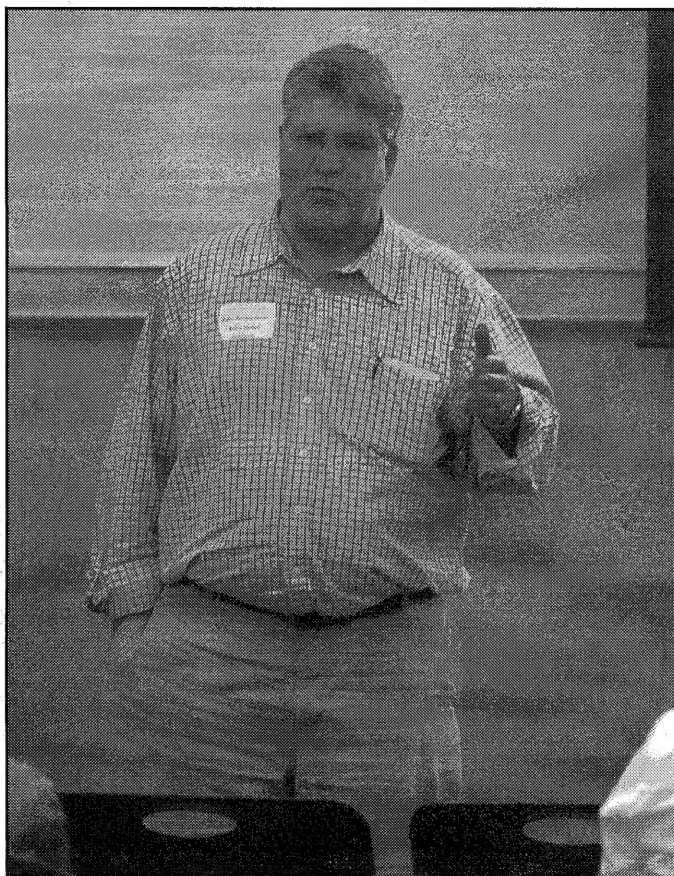
"The whole idea for Peace Week was to show that peace isn't some pie in the sky, hippie, we all love each other thing," said Colleen O'Doherty, president of UNO's chapter of NFP. "Peace is something you actively promote. It's something you engage in, something you live, something you do."

Monday's event was an appearance from Count Bleed-Ya-Dry of the Backbone Project, who lampooned the U.S. insurance industry. On Tuesday, Frances Mendlehol presented information on public access television and Jack Dunn of Progressive Omaha spoke about the political climate of Omaha.

On Wednesday, Tim Rinne presented on STRATCOM and its impact on the Omaha area.

John Kretschmar also gave a presentation on organized labor and importance of unions.

"No one teaches about unions in our schools," Kretschmar said. "Accurate information is missing. It's bad information,



John Kretschmar speaks about the importance of unions and organized labor on Wednesday evening. (MICHELLE BISHOP/GATEWAY)

distorted information. If I said 'unions' in the culture we live in, somebody else might say, 'corruption, mob boss'."

On Thursday, Frank Cordaro presented on the Catholic Worker Movement and aggressive passivism.

O'Doherty said NFP's goals were simple.

"We want to get people involved and get people educated," she said. "If you don't have those two things, you can't do anything else."

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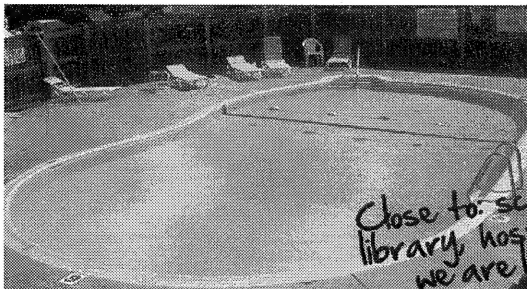
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FROM CABARET: PAGE 1

"It's about moving the conversation to 'yes means yes.'"

Drag performers were Nicolette NuVogue, Chandler Chubbs and Dominique Divamoore. Dominique did a moving tribute to gay rights and gay marriage while lip-synching to "I'm Not Ready to Make Nice" by the Dixie Chicks. She held up signs reading, "Iowa gets it. When will Nebraska?" She also had a sign emblazoned with the name "Matthew Shepard," a young gay man who was murdered for his sexuality in 1998.

"Half of the students seemed to really enjoy the drag queens," Wegener said, "while the other half clearly had never seen a drag show before. It was good for them to experience something so new and outside their own experiences."

The event had a great turnout, she said, with more than 150 people in the audience.

"Between the speakers, drag performances, good food and sex education, I'd say it was a huge success and everyone had a lot of fun," Wegener said. "Because good, healthy sex - well, that's fun!"



Nakiea Boetger of the Nebraska AIDS Project explains the importance of condoms at the Safer Sex Cabaret. (KIRBY KAUFMAN/GATEWAY)

CRIME LOG

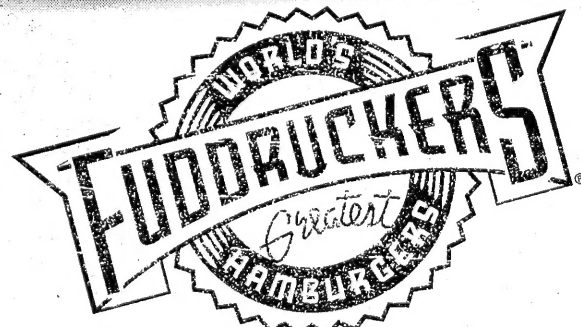
COMPILED BY BREANNA HAYDEN
PRODUCTION MANAGER

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

8:50 a.m. Student reported the theft of their bicycle from Lot L. The incident occurred between Sept. 15 and Sept. 16.

2:50 p.m. A visitor was issued a ban and bar notice at the Milo Bail Student Center Bookstore. They are a suspect from a previous book theft.

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Writers, artists collaborate for Omaha Lit Festival

EMILY JOHNSON
ASSISTANT SECTION EDITOR

A variety of Omaha's artists, writers, poets and bibliophiles flocked to downtown for the 2009 Omaha Lit Fest, which ran Sept. 17 through Sept. 19.

The theme for this year's festival was "the sordid arts of the cheap paperback," a direct salute to the Nebraska pulp fiction writer Jim Thompson. The event served as a celebration for "this new age of frugality, tawdriness and the life-or-death thrift," according to the event's Web site.

The Omaha Lit Fest kicked off at the W. Dale Clark Library on Sept. 17 with a book launch and signing by Nebraska poet Ted Kooser.

Activities continued on Sept. 18 as poets read their original pieces inspired by the paintings and sculptures at the Joslyn Art Museum during "Pulp & Poetry: Tales of Romance & Adventure at the Joslyn."

Later that evening, the festival held an opening night party at the Clark Library and featured the "Twisted Lives, Tormented Loves: savage art inspired by Jim Thompson" exhibit and the Urban Speculative Fiction Literary Foundation. Authors and artists redesigned the famous pop icon's book covers and sold each piece for \$50. Money collected went towards the Lit Fest, the Omaha Public Library and USLF's rocking "chair-ity" fundraiser, which helps youth foster their literary talents and business skills. The weekend wrapped up on Sept. 19 as writers discussed contemporary fiction genres, classical fiction influences and their own personal work. All the events were free and open to the public.

Omaha author Timothy Schaffert

began the Lit Fest in 2005 as a one-man effort to bring the creativity to the city's literary table. Since then, the event has garnered national attention, but is still completely volunteer-based.

"I just decided I wanted to have conversations about books that weren't confined to a college campus and I liked to idea of bringing these kinds of discussions out into the community," Schaffert said. "I think people were really relieved to be asked about it."

Schaffert is also a UNL faculty member, teaching classes in fiction writing, composition and literature as he writes his own widely acclaimed and award-winning fiction novels, "The Phantom Limbs of the Rollow Sisters," "The Singing and Dancing Daughters of God" and "Devils in the Sugar Shop." Schaffert also directs UNL's annual Summer Writing Conference.

Over the years, Schaffert has cultivated relationships internationally with writers, critics, and publicists and with downtown Omaha venues such as KANEKO, the Joslyn Art Museum, the Omaha Public Library, Nomad Lounge and Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater.

"Downtown is pedestrian friendly, so you could conceivably go to a panel discussion and then walk down the streets and have a cup of coffee or a glass of wine," Schaffert said. "Sometimes people contact me because they have a new book coming out and they're in the area. Other times, I might meet people in a conference or at a trade show, and we'll ask them if they're interested in coming."

This year's five hourly panels were "Noir at Noon: the Comforts of Crime in Scary Times," "Trashy Behavior: the

writer's life in the new economy," "Love & or Seduction: Women Writing Romance," "Vampires & Zombies: the Art and Language of Horror" and "Wild: mythmaking and the American West." Schaffert moderated the horror panel, which featured artist Jeremy Caniglia and authors D. Lee Hatchett, Chloe Neill, Marcus Pelegrinas and Evie Rhodes.

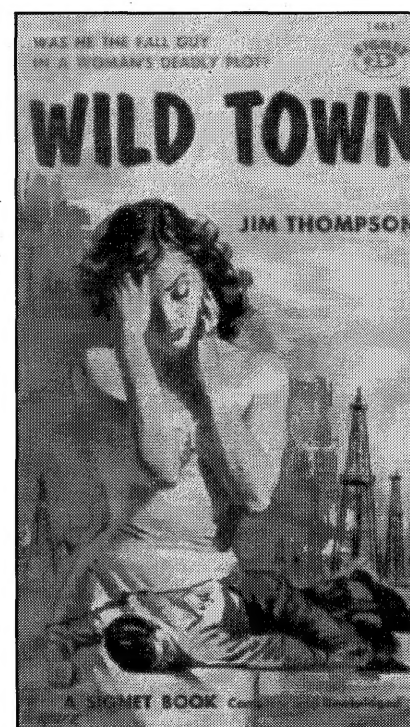
"I really do enjoy moderating and so I enjoyed the horror panel not only because it's a subject that amuses me but also because I got to sit there and ask the questions and be a part of it, and that's always invigorating to me," Schaffert said. "All the contributors had something really valuable to offer."

The panelists' discussions varied from distinguishing erotica and gender stereotypes in romance writing; understanding the dichotomy between good and evil in horror writing; discovering the verve of Western and historical writing; and tapping into the basic emotions and characteristics of the writers themselves.

"I think people feel like it's an approachable and acceptable event, and readers have an opportunities to meet writers and writers have an opportunity to talk with their readers, Schaffert said. "People have a rich environment to meet other people."

But this event, Schaffert said, has its own "glitch" or two. This year's mix-up occurred when the "literary happy hour" following Saturday's panels fell through at Nomad Lounge because of the Omaha Fashion Week Runway Show Finale.

"You try and you try again, and you double-check, but you have an event that has so many pieces and something falls



apart in the process," Schaffert said. "I try to look at when there's not a home game, if I'm lucky there's not game at all that Saturday. I do this completely on the side and it has to take backseat to the other stuff I do."

Schaffert said he enjoys the networking and collaboration between writers, publicists, artists and art organizations that the lit fest has spurred, especially for new talent. He hopes to complete writing his fourth in a month.

"When it comes out that'll be a perfect opportunity to tell people about it," Schaffert said. "When I started the Lit Fest, I had a book coming out about that time too. It's definitely a way to get the word out."

ROAD CLOSING!

UNIVERSITY DRIVE SOUTH ROAD CLOSING SCHEDULED

Tentatively starting **Monday Sept. 28th University Drive South will be closed** for repair. For approximately two weeks, the road from Elmwood park that goes past the HPER Building and the Central Utilities Plant will be closed due to construction. During that time, the Pacific Shuttle Bell Tower drop-off and Library pick-up will be moved to north of the Milo Bail Student Center. Watch for signs regarding delays in construction start and stop times.

For more information, contact Campus Security at 554.2648.

Rock Band: The Beatles crosses generations, technology

ALEXANDER ANTON
CONTRIBUTOR

The news of a "Rock Band" game with all Beatles songs left many waiting in anticipation. But on Sept. 9, patient gamers and music fans didn't have to wait any longer.

"Rock Band: The Beatles" offers players a rare chance to see the history of the band in an interactive format, a feat that took more than six months of legal discussions, according to Kotaku.com. It also marks a transformation for the "Rock Band" series, focusing on a single, immensely popular band. Another notable interactive game "Guitar Hero" did this previously with "Guitar Hero: Metallica." "Rock Band" now seeks to provide a similar experience.

The game rewards players with classic images and videos of the Beatles during their mainstream popularity, making it especially tempting for any longtime fan. The game has been well received by most critics. It is also expected to lift the music games industry out of its current troubling state. At least that's the hope of "Rock Band" publisher Viacom, which continues to lose money on the franchise. Current figures show that video game creator will be paying at least \$40 million in royalties alone.

"I wouldn't really say they're in a slump," said Patrick Cavanaugh, a UNO Computer Science professor who teaches a game programming

class. "I think they are selling just as much as they ever have."

However, Cavanaugh said "Rock Band: The Beatles" has an excellent opportunity to widen their audience by showcasing a group that is cherished by the young and old.

"This game will bring a new audience, especially older generations who now own Wiis," Cavanaugh said. "Even my grandparents own a Wii now."

Cavanaugh said that this game also serves a dual purpose among music fans.

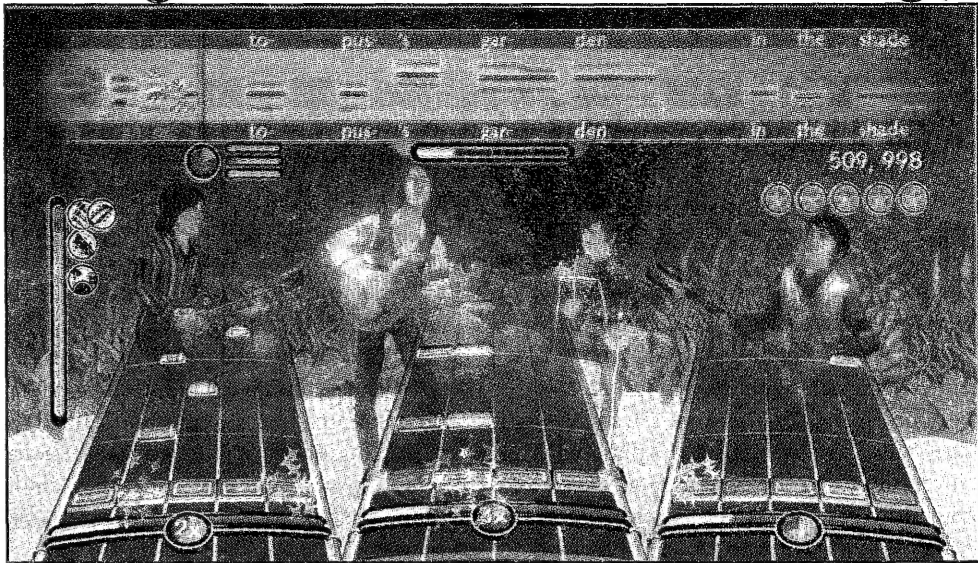
"Not only could it interest people who love the Beatles in 'Rock Band,' but it will also get 'Rock Band' players to take an interest in the Beatles," Cavanaugh said. "Obviously, the Beatles became popular a long time before the current generation, but I remember being in high school and loving them in the mid 90's. They were my favorite band."

The game was released in two different forms: some complete with instruments and some with just the game. The catch is that the instruments are especially made for the Beatles game, offering more microphones and custom guitars.

First time "Rock Band" owners have to purchase the package that comes complete with a guitar, a drum set and a microphone. But for gamers who have already purchased the "Rock Band" equipment, some didn't want to shell out for the additional money for the Beatles edition.

"I've always loved the Beatles, so I bought the game," senior Thomas Smith said. "But I already had 'Rock Band,' and didn't see the point in buying new instruments."

Smith, like many others, paid \$60 for the disc only versus \$250 for the full set. Still, according to ign.com, Viacom CEO Philippe Dauman claims that the company has already sold through 25 percent of its



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF THEBEATLESROCKBAND.COM



inventory. Dauman also said he believes that come November, there won't be any more deluxe sets left, so if Beatles fans eager to get their hands on the special edition equipment, they had better grab one while they're still around.

"Rock Band: The Beatles" game disc features 45 songs from the Fab Four including "A Hard Day's Night," "Back in the U.S.S.R.," "Come Together," "I Want to Hold Your Hand" and "Yellow

Submarine." Noticeably absent are fan favorites like "Help," "Let it be" and "Blackbird," but reports are stating that other tracks will appear later as downloadable content and be available for purchase.

But while "Rock Band: The Beatles" will likely leave an impact on the gaming world just as the Beatles left a mark on the music industry, gamers will have to just "Let it Be," and test it out for themselves.

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Mavs finish second as Suponchick tops Drury field



Junior Dani Suponchick closed with a score of 73 to win individual honors by two strokes. (PHOTO COURTESY OF OMAVS.COM)

ZACH SEASTEDT
SPORTS EDITOR

The Maverick women's golf team finished second in the Drury Fall Shootout after junior Dani Suponchick shot a one-over-par 73 to finish first individually.

The Mavs lost by two strokes to Southern Indiana, 611-613, in the two-day tournament at the Rivercut Golf Course.

The individual medal for Suponchick was the first of her career. She outlasted Southern Indiana's Angela Dehning by two strokes, 146-148.

Senior Abbey Weddle finished second for the Mavs and sixth overall with a

final score of 153. Sophomore Armana Christianson closed with a two-day score of 154 to finish tied for seventh. Senior Erin Ommen finished with 160 and sophomore Rebecca Pollock had a final score of 164.

The second-place finish came a week and a half after the Mavs took down first at the season-opening Lady Reiver Fall Classic hosted by Iowa Western Community College.

The Mavs won by 36 strokes over second place Northwestern College of Iowa, while Dana College finished third.

Ommen finished first individually, becoming the first medalist of the early season. She shot an even par 72, while Pollock finished with a career-best 73 to finish second.

Christianson scored a 79 to finish fifth in the field, while Suponchick and Weddle tied for sixth with a score of 80.

Mavs fall to Northwest Missouri State 37-27

ZACH SEASTEDT
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior quarterback Greg Wunderlich threw for 332 yards and two touchdowns for the Mavs, but the defense gave up costly scores as Northwest Missouri State topped the Mavs 37-27 Saturday at Bearcat Stadium.

The Mavs (2-2 overall, 1-1 Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association) put up 399 total yards of offense but allowed 413 yards to the Bearcats, including 117 yards to NMSU's LaRon Council.

Redshirt freshman wide receiver Brian Miller had eight catches for 161 yards and one touchdown to lead the Mavs.

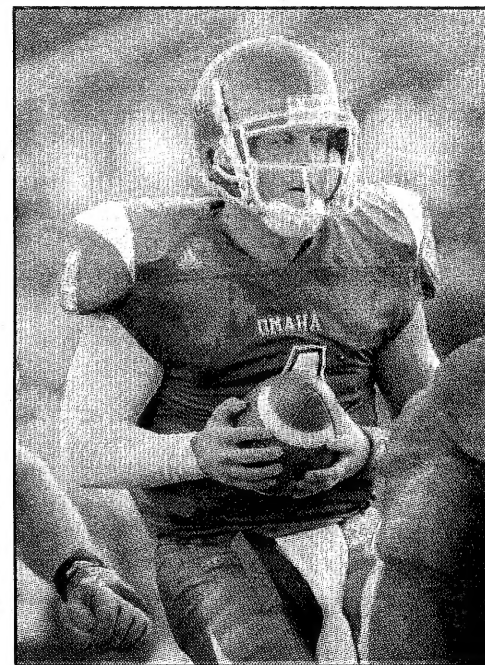
The Bearcats scored first with a 19-yard run by Council to go up 7-0. The Mavs responded on their next possession with a 52-yard drive capped off by a 1-yard touchdown dive by senior running back Robert Wesley. The PAT failed, however, and the Bearcats remained ahead 7-6.

NMSU scored again early in the second quarter on a 5-yard run by Council to go up 14-6. The Mavs immediately answered with an 11-play, 81-yard drive complete with a Miller touchdown grab to cut the lead to 14-12, but junior kicker Greg Zuerlein had his PAT attempt blocked.

The Bearcats came out flying in their next possession. They completed three of three passes for 80 yards including a 69-yard touchdown pass to extend the lead 23-12 with 4:11 in the first half.

Wunderlich responded by helping the Mavs march down the field in six plays. They completed three of four passes including a 4-yard touchdown to sophomore fullback Brett Bohuslavsky to make the score 23-18 with 1:43 in the half. The Mavs got a two-point conversion on a pass from Wunderlich to cut the lead to 23-20.

The Bearcats completed a 46-yard touchdown pass in the final play of the half to take a 30-20



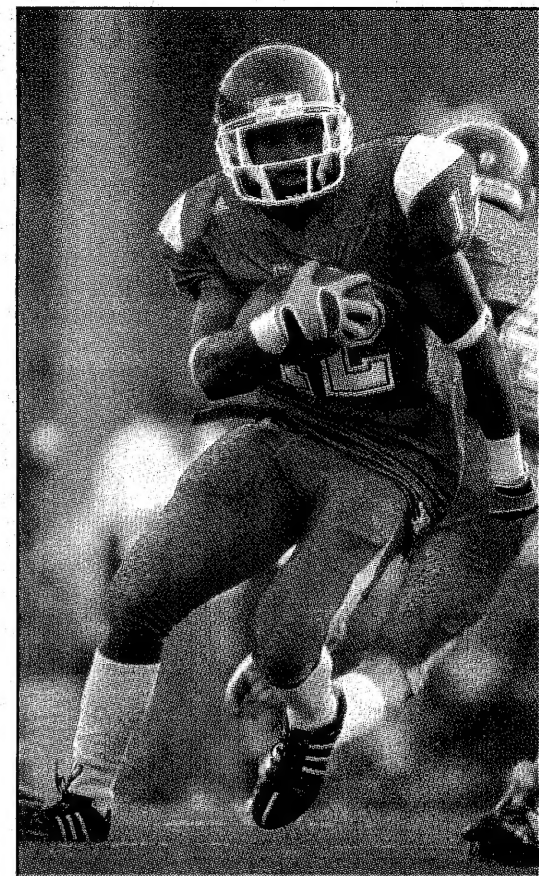
Greg Wunderlich threw for 332 yards and two touchdowns during Saturday's 37-27 loss to Northwest Missouri State. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

halftime lead.

The Bearcats scored again late in the third quarter to increase the lead to 37-20. UNO got its final score in the fourth quarter on a 2-yard rush by junior running back Duane Bowen.

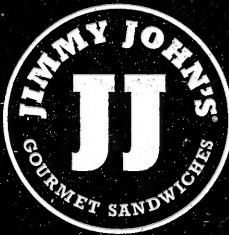
Bowen finished with 10 carries for 23 yards and one touchdown along with 24 yard receiving. Junior tight end Mike Higgins had four catches for 77 yards.

The Mavs will be on the road again this week as they take on Missouri Southern on Sept. 26 in Joplin, Mo.



Bryce Hawthorne and the Mavs return to action with a 2 p.m. game at Missouri Southern on Saturday. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

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Mavs open MIAA action with win over Missouri Southern

ZACH SEASTEDT
SPORTS EDITOR

The Mavs volleyball team opened conference action Wednesday against Missouri Southern and took down the Lions in four sets, 25-22, 25-18, 23-25, 25-21.

Pacing the Mavs was senior middleblocker Ellen Thommes, who registered a season-high 20 kills and had a .567 attack percentage.

Head Coach Rose Shires said she was happy to get the first conference win of the season.

"Any conference win is a good win," Shires said. "I thought Missouri Southern played well. They're a very fast-paced team. I was pleased with our performance."

Sophomore middleblocker Lizzy Mach had 11 kills while senior hitter Sara Kampschnieder added 10. Sophomore setter Emily Myers had 50 assists.

Defensively, sophomore specialist Angie Reicks led the Mavs with 15 digs

while freshman hitter Natalie Ebke had 11. Thommes led with five blocks.

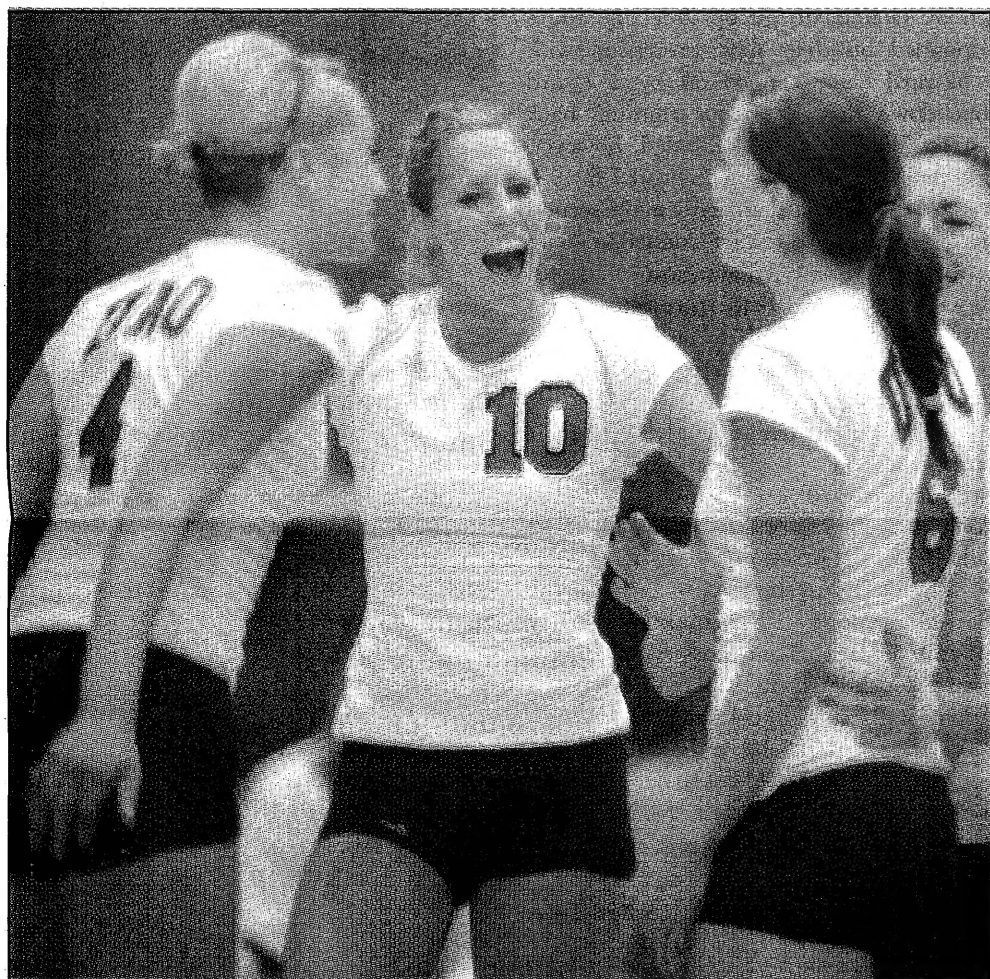
UNO used a 9-0 run in the middle of the first set to take an 18-11 advantage. Missouri Southern responded with seven of the next nine points to cut the lead to two. The Mavs closed out the set with a kill by senior hitter Sara Kampschnieder.

The second set was dominated by the Mavs, with UNO going up 16-7 and Missouri Southern unable to get within five points the rest of the set.

The third set was a lost opportunity for UNO as the Mavs held a late 22-19 lead before the Lions scored six of the final seven points to win the set.

The Mavs held a lead throughout the fourth set but faced constant pressure from Missouri Southern. UNO finally secured the victory with two straight points.

"We started off well early," Shires said. "I thought we lost a little bit of focus, but we were able to get it back and win the match."



The Mavs defeated Missouri Southern 3-1 Wednesday night to improve to 11-3 on the season. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

ON FRIDAY: COVERAGE OF HEAD
COACH ROSE SHIRES' 400TH
CAREER VICTORY

Cross country finishes third at UNO/Creighton Classic

ZACH SEASTEDT
SPORTS EDITOR

The Maverick cross-country team kicked off the season on Sept. 5 with a third-place finish at the UNO/Creighton Classic at Chili Greens in Omaha.

UNO finished third in the event behind UNL and second-place Creighton.

Freshman Brittany Phillips finished with a time of 20:30 to lead the Mavs and place eighth overall. Freshman Megan Oddo was second for the Mavs and ninth overall with a time of 20:37.

Redshirt freshman Dina Luka placed 14th overall, with a time of 21:41. Freshman Nicole Behm finished 15th with a 21:48 final time.

On Saturday, the team finished 12th at the Woody Greeno/Nebraska Invitational at Pioneer Park.

Oddo placed 35th overall to lead the Mavs with a time of 23:14. Phillips was second for UNO with a time of 23:35, while Behm finished with a time of 24:01.

The Mavs will travel to Emporia, Kan., to participate in the Emporia State Cross Country Invite at Jones Park on Oct. 2.

Mavs soccer remains perfect in MIAA play

MICHELLE BISHOP
PHOTO EDITOR

A pair of 2-0 wins over the weekend boosted the UNO soccer team to a perfect 4-0 record in Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association play.

Sophomore Hilary Horvatic scored her first goal of the season to lead UNO to a 2-0 road win over Missouri Southern (2-6, 0-4 MIAA) on Saturday afternoon.

Horvatic's goal came from a corner kick feed from sophomore Jerica Kuncel late in the first half.

Senior Jessica Powers capped the scoring for UNO at 79:09 of the second half. Redshirt freshman Nicole Baier assisted on the goal.

Junior goalkeeper Lauren Fox picked up her second-consecutive shutout to improve to 3-0 on the year. Fox finished with two saves, while UNO's defense allowed just six shots in the match.

The win was coach Don Klosterman's 175th career victory with UNO. His overall record is 175-42-7 in 11 years with the Mavs.

On Thursday, freshman defender Danielle Archuleta netted her first career goal in UNO's 2-0 home win over Central Missouri (3-3-1, 2-1 MIAA).

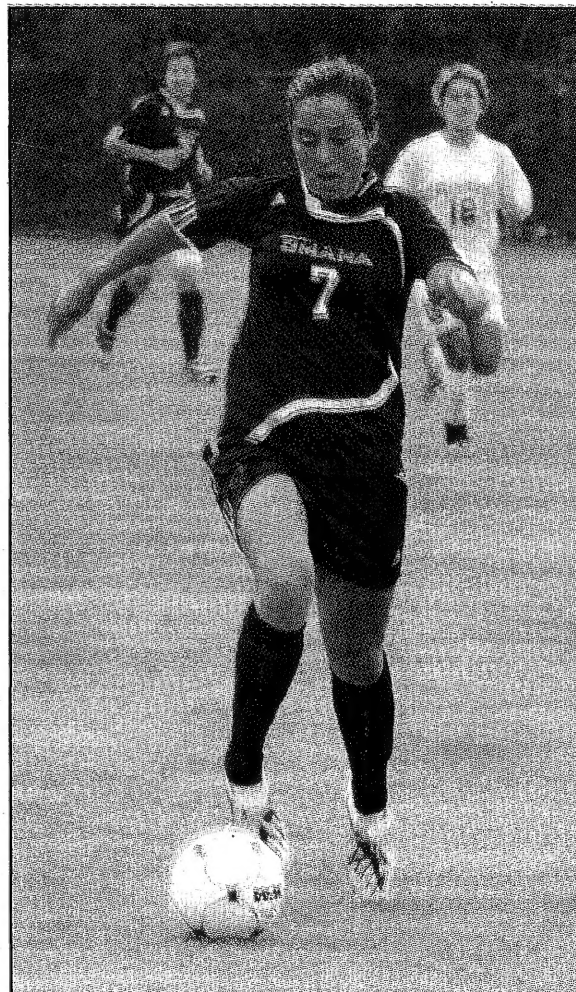
After a scoreless first half, Archuleta buried a loose ball past the UCM goalkeeper just under two minutes into the second half.

Kuncel scored her third goal of the season off a Powers pass at 80:31 to increase

the UNO lead.

Fox earned the shutout and finished with seven saves, helping UNO snap the Jennies' three-game winning streak. UNO out-shot UCM 13-12.

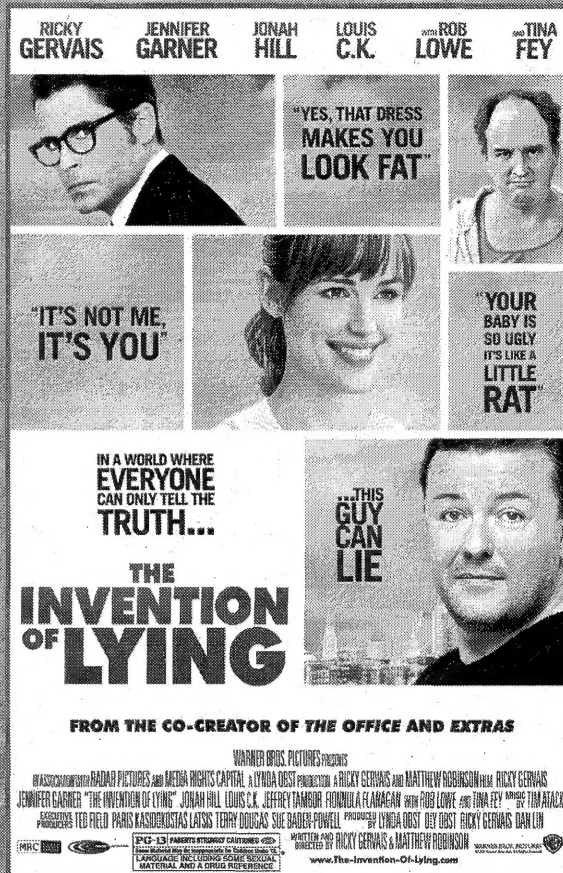
UNO (5-3, 4-0 MIAA) returns to action on Saturday with a noon game at Truman State.



Sophomore forward Jerica Kuncel scored her third goal of the season during UNO's 2-0 win over Central Missouri on Thursday. (JODI PENN/THE GATEWAY)

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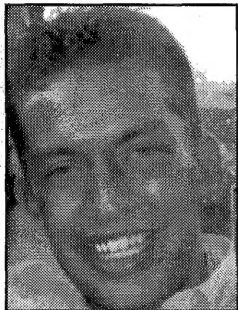
IN THEATRES FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

Being uninsured in America: Who will help?

Juan Hernandez's heart stopped beating abruptly. He was immediately transported to a hospital and was awaiting treatment for his life-threatening illness. As he lay helpless, dying on the hospital bed, a revolutionary treatment could save his life. Then the doctor reviewed Hernandez's chart and realized he wasn't insured. The treatment he received wasn't enough to bring him back to life and he died on the operating table, with all the necessary tools were to save him, but no insurance to cover the costly procedure.

Hernandez's plight is being felt across the nation as

Contributor



Tim Kucera

the amount of people without insurance continues to rise to the highest level seen since 2001, when 14.6 percent were without coverage. As the population grows, so does the number of uninsured people.

This is attributed to the percentage of people with employer-sponsored coverage which continues to decline, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Yet wealthy Americans continue on with their lives, not thinking about the consequences of what this means. Why should they? Their coverage is extensive and they won't ever have to worry about being in the same situation as Hernandez.

A public health-care system needs to be adopted in order to better serve less fortunate Americans. The problem is especially evident in the south and west due to an influx of uninsured people residing in the border states, according to a Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association news release.

Statistics show 32.7 percent of Hispanics and 19.6 percent of African Americans are uninsured, compared to 11.3 percent of whites. Of course, the wealthy are complacent about improving the quality of life for people who are not citizens of America. What right do they have to be in this country, anyway? What must be understood is that our place as a superpower should also mean the ideals used to build our country should be extended to all who want to adopt the American

Health of the world

Despite spending more on health care, the United States continues to lag behind other countries on some key health indicators.

	U.S.	U.K.	Canada	Japan	France
Health care provided	Public, private	Public	Public	Public	Public
Life expectancy At birth, 2007	78 years	80 years	81 years	83 years	81 years
Infant mortality Per 1,000 live births, 2007	6	5	5	3	3
Spending, 2006 As percent of GDP	15.3%	8.2%	10%	8.1%	11.0%
Individual, per person	\$6,719	\$3,332	\$3,917	\$2,759	\$3,937
Government, per person	\$3,076	\$2,908	\$2,759	\$2,242	\$3,139
Out-of-pocket expenses*					
Under \$500	31%	81%	57%	NA	48%
More than \$1,000	41%	4%	20%	NA	5%

NOTE: Dollar amounts based on U.S. dollars

Source: World Health Organization, Commonwealth Fund International

Graphic: Melina Yingling

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(GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM)

way of life.

What everyone in America needs to accomplish is something that has been on the back burner until recently. We must adopt a nationalized health-care system to save the lives of the uninsured and to ensure that future generations are not stricken with the same moral implications of being the most powerful country in the world, unable to care for its own citizens.

Now, say Hernandez was able to receive the life-saving treatment that he was previously unable to afford due to a nationalized health care system. His life was spared and he is still working hard as an American consumer and worker. Saving the lives of the uninsured not only increases the quality of life for the country, but for the entire world. Hernandez will now be able to pump money into the economy as a consumer who would have otherwise perished.

The wealthy may take a hit to their pocket books, but what are they going to do with all of their money anyway? Spend it on a multi-million dollar mansion or a fleet of exotic sports cars? Human life is more important than material goods.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the UNO community:

I just wanted to give the UNO fans props for being respectful fans. A Truman student, I came to the UNO-Truman football game with a friend who sat us in the student section. Wearing my purple Truman shirt and cheering for Truman or yelling onto the field, I received very little crap from your fans. I was relatively disappointed but at the same time very respectful of your fans. Coming from St. Louis and being a huge Cardinals fan, I was expecting to be treated like a Cardinals fan at Wrigley Field. Despite the loss I had a good time and felt comfortable at the stadium. Thank you UNO fans.

Alex Halfmann

Student, Truman State University

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Emeritus Professor of Criminal Justice
University of Nebraska at Omaha

Thursday, September 24, 2009, 7 p.m.
University of Nebraska at Omaha
Thompson Center, Bootstrapper Hall

Media and opinion leaders granted final decision on health care

The health-care reform debate has flared up and gotten out of hand. It is dominating the public's pulse. When one subject garners so much dominance in the social and media spheres, truth begins to decay. Arguments and reporting warp and turn into selling points and counter attacks. Much of this happens through opinion leaders.

Sociologists Paul Lazarsfeld and Elihu Katz introduced a communication theory called The Two-Step Flow of Communication. The theory said that information is relayed to audiences via opinion leaders who have access to media and are considered experts or at least credible in a subject. Today's media culture strongly reflects this.

Pundits and politicians are today's political opinion leaders. These are the people who try to shape and influence policy but, in order to do so, the American people must be on whichever side they are on. So, media outlets and certain politicians work each other for specific causes. The point here is that the current way information is being disseminated is not meant to inform, it's meant to persuade. This is not the media's sole purpose. There are other duties. Unfortunately, it carries more weight than basic reporting, balanced analysis and carefully weighed opinion columns or reports.

Health-care reform is an important and worthy cause. So much so that it should be approached in a balanced and noninflammatory manner. The opposite is the case. One specific example I want to use to illustrate this is the remarkably eloquent and inevitably elaborate former vice-presidential candidate and

recently resigned governor of Alaska, Sarah Palin - at least the latter part is true.

Media pundits like Rush Limbaugh, Glenn Beck, Ann Coulter, Bill O'Reilly, Pat Buchanan, Lou Dobbs, Keith Olbermann, Rachel Maddow and many more salivate every time this woman opens her mouth and says or writes anything.

They dismiss and ridicule her as a fantastic, right-wing nut or praise her impeccable logic, laud her determination and applaud her patriotism.

This is the kind of stuff that influences public opinion, which is a powerful force to use in legislative arguments and inflame the public pulse. It also divides people and persuades them to approach real policy debates with each other in an ignorant manner - the opposite of healthy discussion and argument.

Good or bad, Palin is a media darling. She has shaped 2009's loudest debate: the health-care debate. Her big contribution was a Facebook note she posted on Aug. 7 that said, "The America I know and love is

not one in which my parents or my baby with Down Syndrome will have to stand in front of Obama's 'Death Panel' so his bureaucrats can decide based on subjective judgment of their 'level of productivity in society,' whether they are worthy of health care." Yes, death panels.

To Americans this statement is either blatant proof of Palin's moronic impishness or it disappoints moderate republicans who feel that she is approaching the topic with a negative strategy thereby damaging the Republican Party. Or, that she is right; That there are death panels involved in the health care plan and

that these socialists must be stopped.

Then there are the inevitable calls to arms from the different sides. And so the people have begun their public discussion on health care reform and the big talk is whether there are death panels and if Palin is right or wrong.

This dominated the public sphere for weeks and has heavily influenced many people I talk to. I see these three points repeated again and again when the health care debate comes up. I see it in the media and in society around me. It is evident.

This is evidence that Palin, whether she is right, wrong, smart or dumb, is a dominant opinion leader in the health care debate. The media has facilitated her extraordinary media access. Before the failed vice-presidential bid she was just the governor of Alaska. She was important for Alaska. Less so for maybe the rest of America until the 2008 presidential race and she went back to Alaska and has resigned.

How is this person someone anybody involved in a health care argument would trust as a credible source to quote or use? And how often does the other side need to continually try to prove she is not credible by ridiculing her?

This is not how a healthy media operates. This is not how politicians honestly influence public debate. This is how people are manipulated and herded into partisan sides that battle and bicker with each other. Because when this happens, true change takes place behind the scene and it's usually not discovered until it's too late, and then it's back to the blame game.

The people, for the most part, are left to ingest "information" from incredulous opinion leaders so that whatever is the best sell for America gets done, regardless of issues that truly need being debated logically, thoroughly and honestly for the most people possible. This way, they can honestly make a choice and tell their congressperson what they really think; not what some opinion leader tells them they should think.

Good Medicine



Mark Reagan

I know what you did online last summer...

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The photo of you dancing in your skivvies last Halloween. That insulting Twitter status post regarding your new employer. Those surveys you filled out for the discounted concert tickets. Little snippets of information taken from your personal life displayed online in a format your 50-year-old mom could figure out in a few minutes. Pieces of information your future employer might search for at that job you really need to get.

Then there's the mound of compiled data detailing your address, Social Security number and credit card numbers sold for \$20 to a teenager in Thailand. Advances in Internet usage, technology and information we give out online have led to serious issues regarding privacy, even for basic Internet users.

As uses for the Internet increase the amount of personal information spread on the Web increases almost in unison. From online banking to social networking, more information than we realize is being swallowed up, sold and used in all sorts of privacy invading activities.

Some of the information is used in advertising to specifically target ads while you surf online. "Web bugs" are placed on sites that track your activity on the site every time you visit it. Trusted companies like Google have Web bugs placed on 92 of the top 100 sites visited, according to a report by the Christian Science Monitor. While most of the information collected is for marketing purposes and is not directly harmful, the traces of information you leave online can easily be collected by the wrong hands.

It's stunning how quickly someone can drum up information on anyone online. The CS Monitor hired a private investigator, Steven Rambam, to create a profile of one of their editors. In 20 minutes, "Rambam created a dossier on the editor so large the Monitor's e-mail program rejected it," according to the CS Monitor's report. And that was just with the quick search. With an in-depth search, not only is information available like salary history, employment and residence, but even the information regarding lifestyle, where you go on weekends and Web sites you visit often.

We might not all worry about this information being dug up online. We might not think we use the Internet enough to actually have any important information available. Chances are if you have ever purchased something online, checked your bank statement, opened a Facebook account or completed a

survey, there's already more information available than you may be comfortable with.

Take a look at online privacy policies, for example. Those mile-long legal documents are wordier than a Herman Melville novel and more boring than watching someone being beat to death by a balloon. Often designed to protect the company more than the user, privacy policies give companies access to use information you provide on their site in their marketing materials and even sell your information to other companies.

Part of the public's issue about sharing our information online is that sometimes it happens without our apparent knowledge. Before the Internet, we knew when we were being marketed to because we would receive phone surveys during dinner, or direct-mail postcards asking how we felt after purchasing the mint collection of Sacajawees. We're being used as marketing tools and the methods

used are so transparent you need to be a computer geek or law buff to realize what's happening.

The question is, do we really care if our information is being pilfered and scrutinized by unknown individuals? If you don't care that your government knows your religious background and what you looked up on Google last week, maybe you'll be fine. But it's time we realize that anything we put online is fair game for information hunters. "You have zero privacy anyway. Get over it," said Sun Microsystems' CEO Scott McNealy at a company event launch.

None of us really want to disengage from the Internet world and it's unrealistic that we would. Keep in mind that all information placed online could potentially end up in someone else's hands. Try actually reading the privacy statement before you click "I agree." Don't fill out any survey asking for personal information like Social Security number, telephone number and address. Avoid posting any photo you wouldn't want your boss to see. Assume your e-mail can be read by anyone. Check out the privacy settings on your Facebook account.

There's a plethora of practices to decrease the spread of your personal information. It comes down to taking a bit more time, research and restraint. Maybe that'll save you from explaining why your MySpace profile picture is of you shooting fireworks towards the boss' house at a job interview someday.

Contributor



Chris Massara